

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/825,318

Applicant(s)

NARUSE ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Hoan H. Tran

2852

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 12/08/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-19 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-16

None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a cleaning apparatus comprising a blade chip having a rubber plate member and a reinforcing plate that are joined together; wherein the reinforcing plate member having first and second end planes, wherein when the blade chip is in original position, the first end plane is located a predetermined distance from the distal end of a supporting plate supporting the blade chip, and wherein when the blade chip is in a changed position, the second end plane is located at the predetermined distance from the distal end of the supporting plate.

Claim 17

None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a cleaning apparatus comprising a blade chip having a rubber plate member and a reinforcing plate that are joined together; wherein the length between a distal end of the rubber plate member and a distal end of the reinforcing plate member is no more than the thickness of the rubber plate member.

Claim 18

None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a cleaning apparatus comprising a blade chip having a rubber plate member and a reinforcing plate that are joined together, and a piezoelectric element disposed on a vibration plate for propagating vibration to the blade chip via

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the vibration plate; wherein one or more notches are formed in a portion of the vibration plate other than a portion of the vibration plate on which the piezoelectric element is disposed.

Claim 19

None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a cleaning apparatus comprising a blade chip having a rubber plate member and a reinforcing plate that are joined together, and a piezoelectric element disposed on a vibration plate for propagating vibration to the blade chip via the vibration plate; wherein the rubber plate member and the reinforcing plate member are joined together via an intermediary member disposed therebetween.

Prior Art

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- Serizawa et al. [6,957,028] disclose a cleaning blade.
- Yasutomi et al. [5,999,773] disclose a cleaning device.
- Saitoh et al. [5,835,837] disclose a cleaning device.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoan H. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-2141. The examiner can normally be reached from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Monday-Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Arthur Grimley can be reached at (571) 272-2136. The central office fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

HHT
Feb. 21, 2006



**HOAN TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**



OBLON, SPIVAK, et al
Docket No: 252000US3
Inventor: Osamu NARUSE, et al.
Serial No: 10/825,318
Reply to OA dated 09/08/2005
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Approved
46
02/24/06

FIG.1

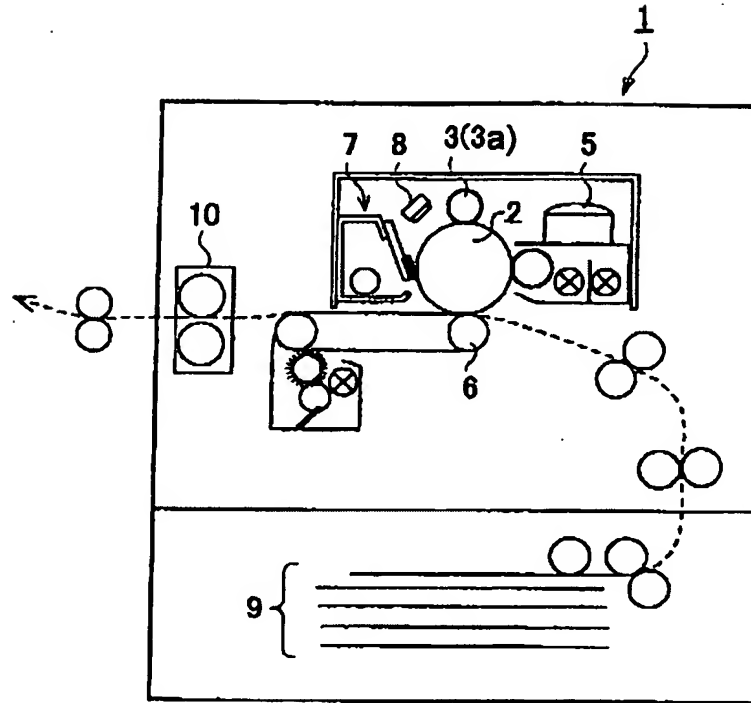
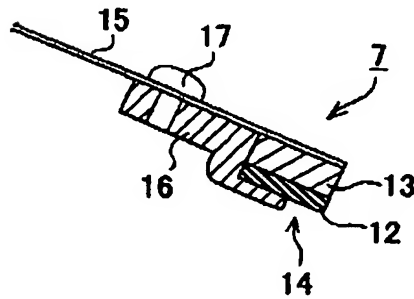


FIG.2



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or/1/16



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FIG.3

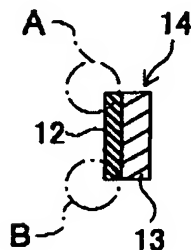
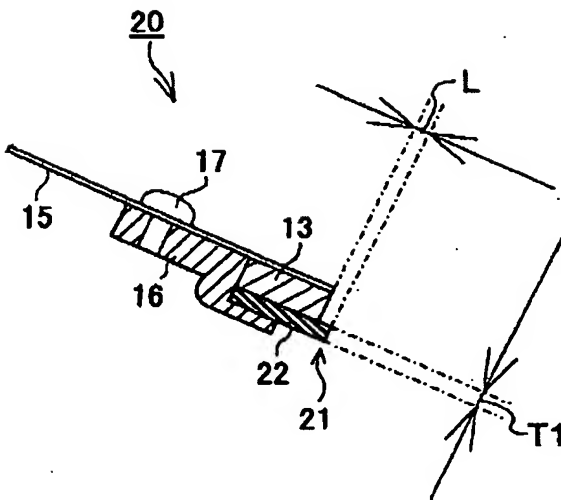


FIG.4



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in
02/11/06



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FIG.5

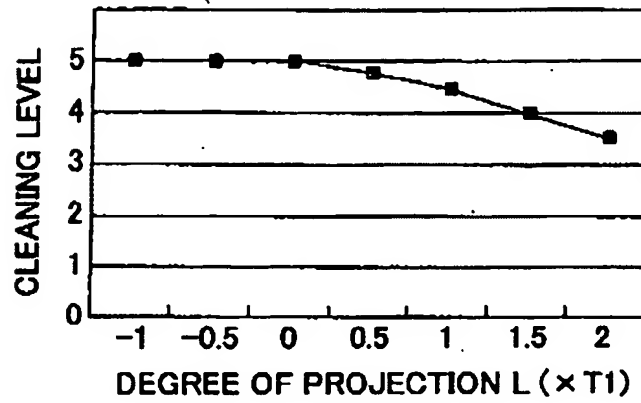
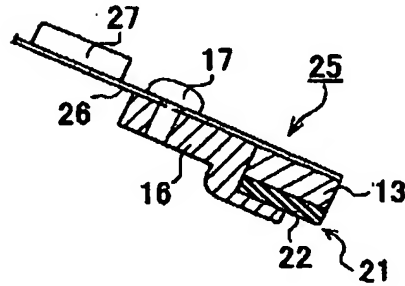


FIG.6





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FIG.7

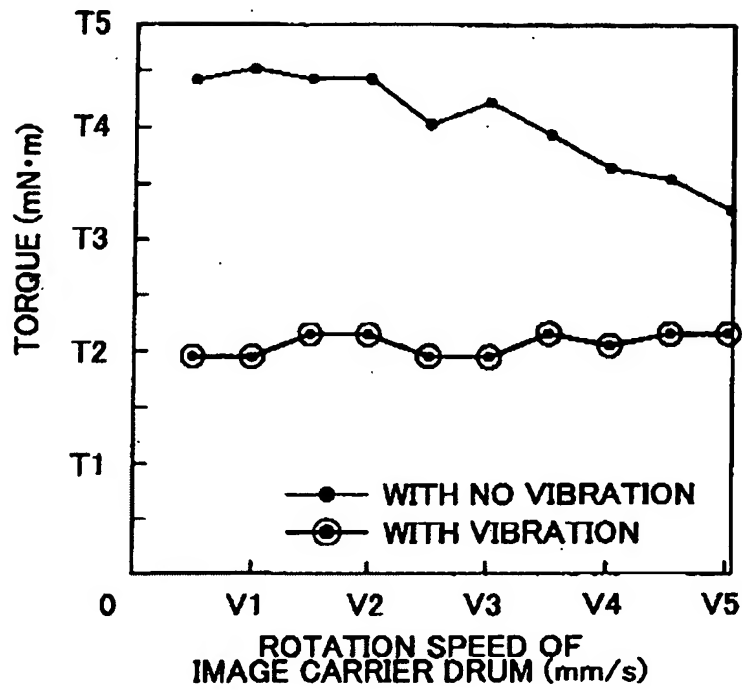
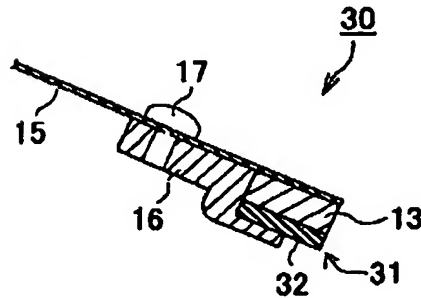


FIG.8





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FIG.9

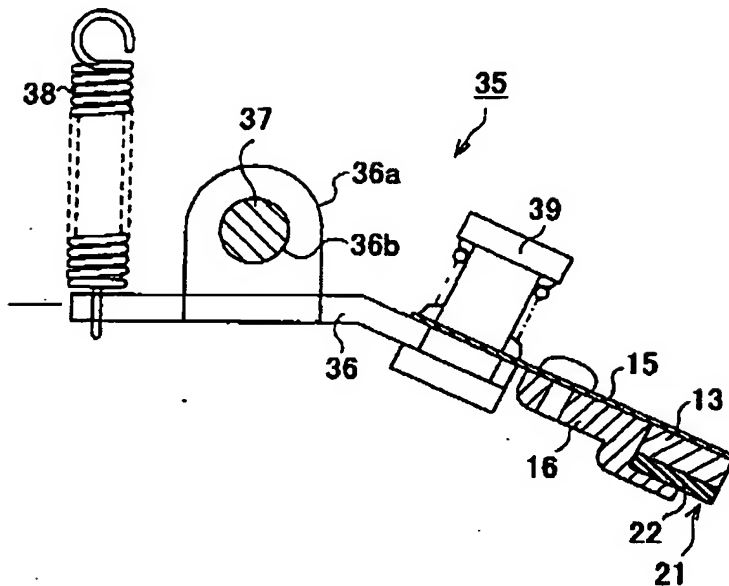
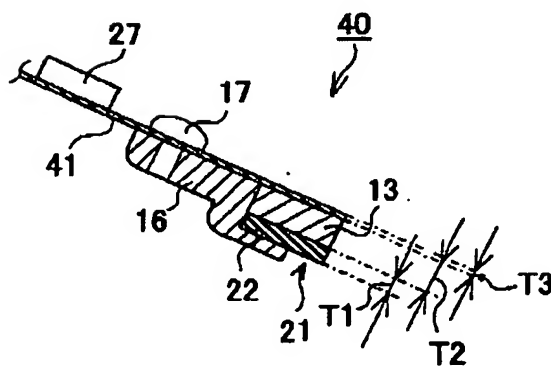


FIG.10





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FIG.11

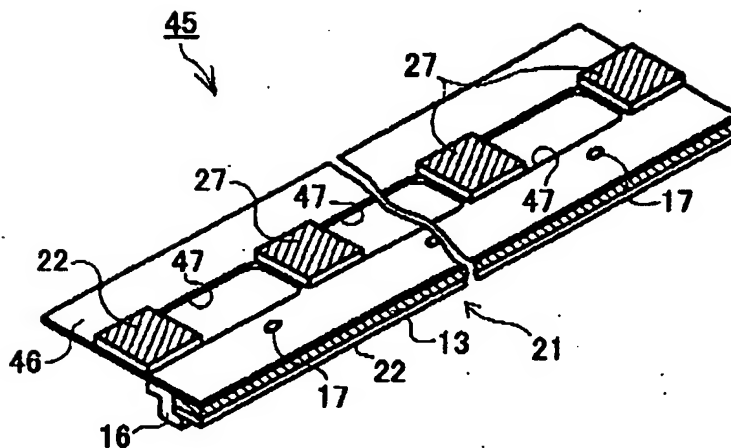


FIG.12

